



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AbilityFirst Salutes the World of Entertainment  
With their Annual “Hooray For Hollywood” Celebration**

**PASADENA CA –March 31, 2015** – The AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center will salute the world of entertainment by recognizing people with disabilities as the true “stars” with its annual Hooray For Hollywood celebration on May 9, 2015 beginning at 6:15 pm.

This special celebration will begin with teens and adults arriving first class via limousines to the throngs of paparazzi, screaming fans, studio lights and celebrities. After walking down the red carpet, signing autographs and being introduced to the ‘fans’ by a celebrity impersonator, each participant will pose for photos on the red carpet before entering the program center and dancing to a live band.



“The event is intended to make each and every participant feel like they are the “stars,” and we are all their fans,” says Michael Barkyoumb, Director of AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center. “We want each one of them to feel like a star as the staff, volunteers and the rest of the crowd focus our attention and adulation on them, since children and adults with disabilities seldom receive enough positive attention and feedback, which they deserve.”

AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center in Pasadena offers programs for children and adults with developmental disabilities, such as autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and epilepsy. The center serves the San Gabriel Valley region of Southern California, including the communities of Pasadena, Glendale, Monrovia, Altadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Rosemead, San Marino, South Pasadena, and Temple City. Established in 1968, the center is named for AbilityFirst founder and past president Lawrence L. Frank, who was a prominent resident of Pasadena. The center features two large activity rooms, rewards room, a computer lab, an outdoor swimming pool, two outdoor patios and an outdoor play area.

**About Ability First**

[AbilityFirst](#), established as the Crippled Children’s Society of Southern California in 1926, provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. Through 25 [locations](#) across Southern California, they offer a broad range of employment, recreational and socialization [programs](#) as well as accessible residential housing complexes and an accessible camp, [Camp Paivika](#), for both children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities. All facilities are licensed by the California Department of Social Services.

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